

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 97-150-C - ORDER NO. 97-770
SEPTEMBER 5, 1997

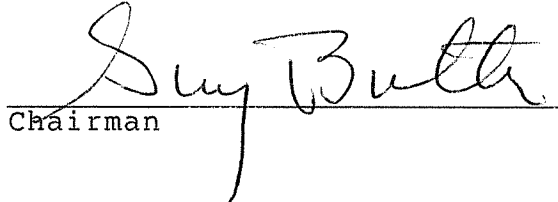
IN RE: Sprint - United Telephone Company of) ORDER CLOSING
the Carolinas Level of Earnings) EARNINGS REVIEWS
AND DOCKET

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina for review of the level of earnings for United Telephone Company of the Carolinas (United) for the twelve month periods ending December 31, 1996 and March 31, 1997. We note that we approved United's depreciation filing on August 12, 1997. The new depreciation rates for digital central office and aerial metallic cable were incorporated into the revised surveillance reports for the above-stated periods.

After review of these revised surveillance reports, it appears that United's earnings for the periods ending December 31, 1996 and March 31, 1997 do not exceed authorized levels. Accordingly, United requests that the Commission's earnings reviews for these periods be closed. We agree with this request, since United's earnings were within authorized limits.

Therefore, the earnings reviews for the periods stated above shall be closed. This Docket shall also be closed. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)